

the middle of May, 1888, at the Batterman Ranch in the foothills of the Huachuca Mountains, ten miles north of the Mexican border in Cochise County, Arizona. The specimen was shot by Mr. O. C. Smith of Tombstone, A. T., from a live oak tree on the ranch, and was in the California Academy of Science, with the Price collection of Arizona Birds, until presented to me by Mr. Smith the past winter. — OTHO C. POLING, *Arizona*.

**The First Plumage of *Otocoris alpestris strigata* Hensh. — ♀ juv.** (No. 5080, collection of G. S. Miller, Jr., Salem, Marion Co., Oregon; June 29, 1890; Allen Rhodes collector): Plumage of dorsal surface seal brown, the feathers everywhere edged with ochraceous-buff, which color is most conspicuous on the upper tail-coverts, rump, cervix, remiges and wing-coverts; interscapulars, scapulars and some of the tertials and wing-coverts tipped with dirty white; rectrices slightly darker than remiges and general dorsal surface, the outer pair tipped and edged externally with dirty white, the inner pair much suffused with ochraceous-buff; ventral surface pure white; chin and throat slightly marked with dusky; jugulum, sides, and flanks ochraceous-buff, flecked, especially on the jugulum, with obscure brownish; cheeks, lores and forehead mixed brown and whitish. The first plumage of this form resembles more closely the young of *praticola* than it does the corresponding stage of any of the western races. The white edgings of the feathers of the back, so conspicuous in the young of *merrilli*, are here replaced by ochraceous-buff; while the dark ground color above makes it a very different looking bird from the young of any of the other forms found in the western United States. From the first plumage of *praticola* I am able to find no distinguishing character, except that the buff is everywhere brighter than in the brightest *praticola* that I have seen. The young of *praticola* are very variable in the shade of both ground color and markings, and it will be interesting to see whether further material will show as great a range of variability in the young of the present race. — G. S. MILLER, JR., *Cambridge, Mass.*

**European Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*) Breeding in Worcester County, Mass.** — There have been brought to the rooms of the Natural History Society in this city a nest and five eggs of the European Goldfinch (*C. carduelis*), with the skin of the female. They were taken in Northville, a suburb of this city, July 11, 1890, by Mr. F. S. Wilder. The nest was in an apple tree within seven feet from the ground, and corresponds to the description in Ridgway's 'Manual,' except that it contains no moss. The female is in fair breeding plumage. The male was not seen. — GEO. CHURCHILL, *Worcester, Mass.*

**Description of the Nests and Eggs of *Dendroica graciae* and *Contopus pertinax*.** — Among my oölogical accessions of the past season were the nests and eggs of two species not described heretofore, viz., *Dendroica graciae*, Grace's Warbler, and *Contopus pertinax*, Cones's Flycatcher, both

collected by Mr. H. Keays for Prof. H. P. Attwater, in Yavapai Co., Arizona. Skins and nests accompanied both sets of eggs.

*Dendroica graciae*. Nest placed on limb of pine tree sixty feet from the ground. Nest very compact; outside diameter 3 in. by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. high; inside diameter  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in. by  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in. deep. The body of this nest is composed of horse-hair, strings and vegetable fibres. The most abundant vegetable material interwoven consists of the staminate catkins and bud scales of *Quercus emoryi*. There is also some wool, vegetable down, and insect webbing, in which are entangled the exuviae of some caterpillar. Attached on the outside was a small staminate cone of a species of *Pinus*. Nest well lined with feathers and horse-hair. The three eggs were well incubated. Their ground color is creamy white, marked over entire surface, but more heavily at larger end, where they form a wreath, with light umber and an occasional speck of dark chestnut; lilac shell markings at larger end only. Measurements, .51X.70, .50X.69, .50X.68 in.; average, .50X.69. Collected June 23, 1890.

*Contopus pertinax*. The nest, placed on an oak limb twenty feet from ground, is compact, and reminds one of the nest of our *C. virens*, excepting in size. Outside diameter 5 in. by 2 in. high; inside diameter 3 in. by 1 in. deep. The body of the nest seems to consist of the web of some spider intermingled with the exuviae of some insect, fragments of insects, and vegetable matter, such as staminate catkins of *Quercus emoryi* and a pod of *Hosackia*, some leaves of *Quercus emoryi* and *Q. undulata*. The interior of the nest is made up of grasses, principally of two species of *Poa*, also some fragments of a *Bontelona* and a *Stipa*. The eggs, three in number, were slightly incubated. The ground color is creamy-buff, spotted in a ring round larger end with chestnut and lilac-gray. Measurements, .63X.86, .62X.83, .61X.83 in.; average, .62X.84. Collected June 17, 1890. I am greatly indebted to Messrs. Wm. Brewster of Cambridge, Mass., Josiah Hoopes of West Chester, Pa., and John M. Holzinger of Washington, D. C., for the identification of the above skins and nesting material. — SAMUEL B. LADD, *West Chester, Pa.*

A Female *Piranga rubra* Assuming the Plumage of the Male. On the 27th of May of the present year my son Percy W. Shufeldt collected at Takoma Park, in Montgomery County, Maryland, a female Summer Tanager having a plumage so unusual that a record of it would seem worthy of presentation. The species is by no means uncommon in the locality where it was taken, and the specimen is apparently an adult, of several years of age. In coloration her plumage about corresponds with that of a young male of this species during the first summer, or an adult female with the following differences;—the plumage of the upper parts is thickly interspersed with the dark red feathers which characterize the male, and the plumage of the entire under parts is thickly beset with bright vermillion-tinted feathers. Many of the secondaries of the wings are also bright red, as is also the outer tail-feather of the left side. I personally examined the sex of this specimen on dissection, and found her ovary to